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Letter dated 6 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement in response to the closure of Radio Sagamartha FM in Nepal issued on 5 December 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Emyr **Jones Parry**
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement in response to the closure of Radio Sagamartha FM in Nepal issued on 5 December 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union continues to be deeply concerned by the actions of the Government of Nepal to impose and enforce repressive restrictions on the media in Nepal. As we have said previously, the amendments contained in the new Media Ordinance infringe the universal right to freedom of expression.

Accordingly, we condemn the seizure of radio equipment on 27 November 2005 from the Sagamartha FM station in Kathmandu by the security forces.

The European Union again calls upon the Government of Nepal to uphold the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal and allow the people of Nepal their universal right to freedom of expression.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be part of the stabilization and association process.